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ABSTRACT

This report from the Oregon State Library deals with the expenditures and status of programs funded under the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) for the period ending June 30, 1976. The administration policies for these funds are described and an account of program expenditures is included. Through LSCA the State Library has increased interrelationships between libraries and improved interlibrary communication. Particular topics evaluated are relationships between the State Library and local and special libraries, and the status of special services to institutional libraries and libraries for the blind and handicapped. (JAB)

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LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT

ANNUAL DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

For the period ending June 30, 1976

MARCIA LOWELL
State Librarian

The activity which is the subject of this report was supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Office of Education, and no official endorsement by the U.S. Office of Education should be inferred.

OREGON STATE LIBRARY
Salem, Oregon
1976

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LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION
AMENDMENTS OF 1970

Administration

The Oregon State Library is responsible for the administration of funds available under the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), Public Law 91-600, in the state of Oregon. The Oregon State Library Board of Trustees, with the advice of the State Advisory Council on Libraries, adopts the Long Range Program for the implementation of the LSCA, a five-year plan for library development, the regular revisions to update these plans, and annual programs to implement the Long Range Program. In accord with the policies and criteria they have established, the Oregon State Library Board, after considering the advice of the State Advisory Council on Libraries, approves or disapproves all grant applications and makes all appropriate grant awards.

LSCA further requires that a state long range program for carrying out the purposes of the Act shall set forth policies and procedures for the periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of programs and projects supported under this Act, and for appropriate dissemination of the results of such evaluations and other information pertaining to such programs or projects.

EXPENDITURE OF LSCA FUNDS

Title I - Library Services

In a change from previous years, no LSCA funds were used for either Administration or Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services, both of which were provided entirely through State funds.

Oregon State Library Programs	Amount	% of Total
Library Services & Development	$577,415	95.8%
Administration	-0-	-0-
Institutional Library Services	$ 25,000	4.2
Blind & Physically Handicapped Library Services	-0-	-0-
Title I - Total	$602,415	100%

Title II - Public Library Construction

No Title II funds were appropriated for Fiscal Year 1976.

Title III - Interlibrary Cooperation

Projects	Amount
Columbia Regional Association of Governments (Multi-County, Interstate Cooperation Study)	$ 15,000
Washington County, Dept. of Finance & Administration (County-wide cooperation demonstration)	$ 11,736

Statewide Projects	Amount
Oregon State System of Higher Education, Dept. of Continuing Education (Workshops on Interlibrary Cooperation)	$ 10,000

Title III - Interlibrary Cooperation (cont.)

Statewide Projects (cont.)	Amount	
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (Western Interstate Library Coordinating Organization - Membership)	$ 7,644	
Continuing Library Education Network & Exchange, Inc. (Membership)	$ 762	
Title III - Total	$44,942	
Total LSCA Funds, Title I, II, III		$647,357

OREGON STATE LIBRARY

State Library Services

Four hundred thousand people in Oregon are unserved by a local public library. The total library needs of twenty percent of the state's population must be met by the State Library, and thirty percent of the requests to the State Library come from these individual borrowers.

In addition, the State Library furnishes materials to school and public libraries and provides extensive reference services to state agency personnel and the general public. Supplements to the book catalog of adult non-fiction holdings of the State Library are published regularly and distributed to public and school libraries throughout the state.

The increased interrelationship of libraries and improved means of interlibrary communication, much of this resulting from LSCA grant projects, have increased demands upon the services of the State Library by making requests to the State Library faster and more convenient.

The State Library has continued and expanded its collection of modern foreign language materials. This collection is composed largely of fiction and other popular works suitable to the ordinary library needs of the limited-English speaking person in Oregon. By maintaining a central collection of such materials in the State Library a much wider variety of materials in more languages can be provided than any local library could afford to develop.

The State Library has also continued to expand its holdings in self education, job seeking, and employment preparation materials. These holdings now include a wide range of such materials including materials designed to help prepare persons to take civil service exams on all governmental levels as well as materials designed to teach specific job skills. Many of these items were written especially to fit the needs of the educationally, socially, and culturally disadvantaged.

LSCA funds serve as a supplement to state funds for the operation of the Library. A total of $743,690 of state funds was expended in addition to $602,415 in federal funds during fiscal 1976.

State Library Services (cont.)

All of the LSCA Title I funds not provided to the Institutional Library Services went for State Library operations. The services provided by the State Library are well received and in great demand throughout the State, but many librarians insist that the Oregon State General Fund should pay for these services and LSCA funds be reserved to develop local services throughout the State. The policy of the Legislative Assembly has been to make maximum use of federal funds to finance operations of state agencies. The objectives of the Long Range Program are not in agreement with this policy but have not had noticable effect upon the policy.

Services provided the State Library have not suffered from this policy but statewide library development has suffered for several reasons. In practice, funds for library development grants have been available only every other year. Because funding is variable, planning for development has been haphazard and drawn little support or commitment from the library community. A more constant level of funding would solve this problem. Forward funding from the federal level would help immensely in the planning for implementation of these activities. In addition, local changes including a more concerted effort by local libraries to plan for their respective futures and cooperation on regional level within the state would vastly improve the library development situation in Oregon.

Library Development

Oregon Revised Statutes 357.003 states that it is the policy of the people of Oregon: "(1) To promote the establishment, development and support of library services for all the people of this state ... and (3) To encourage cooperation between units of government and between and among libraries and to encourage the joint exercise of powers where such cooperation or joint exercise will increase the extent of library services in a fair and equitable manner."

Oregon Revised Statutes 357.005 (1) states that the State Library shall be the agency responsible for excuting the functions listed in ORS 357.003. ORS 357.005 (2) states that in order to carry out its duties, the State Library may: "(a) Promote adequate library services for all the people of this state. (b) Provide advice and assistance to libraries, to units of local government empowered to establish libraries and to departments and agencies of the state government in matters concerning the establishment, support, operation, improvement and coordination of libraries and library services, and the cooperation between libraries ... (h) Provide for inservice and continuing education programs for library personnel in the state, and (i) Expend such federal, state or private funds as may be available to the state to demonstrate, develop and support library services in accordance with long-range plans for state-wide development and coordination of library services."

Library Development (cont.)

During the fiscal year 1976, the Library Development consultants have carried out a statewide field trip schedule which has encouraged the formation of library systems and cooperative library programs. The work of the consultants has been directed toward the improvement of local library services by aiding in the processes of book selection, collection maintenance, facility planning and evaluation, and general library organization and management.

Library Development consultants review all grant applications, as well as monitor and evaluate all grant projects. They also draft the Long Range Program for Library Development and its annual revisions, with the advice and assistance of librarians and local officials throughout the State.

Institutional Library Services

Institutional Library Services has as its primary objective the provision of library materials and services to the residents of all institutions operated or substantially supported by the State. The State Library has continued to emphasize the purchase of materials for State institutional libraries to be used by residents. The State Library spent $25,000 in LSCA funds, matched by $194,585 of the institutions' funds, making a total expenditure for Institutional Library Services of $219,585.

During the year two significant developmental activities gained momentum. Public libraries located near some of the State's institutions outside Marion County showed increased commitment in the provision of library services to residents of those institutions. Financial conditions throughout the State caused those public libraries not to support the institutions at the level they hoped but the commitment appears to be stronger than ever. Service to local jails as part of a public library program was assumed in three areas of the State; each had started service to jails through previous LSCA grants. After the fiscal year was completed, the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service was approved by the voters to start service in July 1977. Although nothing has been agreed upon, the librarians of the Chemeketa area have indicated they will consider extending direct service to residents of the institutions. Most of the institutions are located within the Chemeketa service boundaries.

The second activity is the formation of a group of institutional librarians who meet regularly to discuss these special services. A major accomplishment of this group has been to draft standards for library service to local jails. The standards will provide a base for development and evaluation of services to inmates in correctional facilities.

Institutional Library Services (cont.)

Most of the institutional libraries are still unable to fill the needs of the people they serve. Most jails in Oregon still do not provide library service to inmates; most nursing homes are not receiving direct service from local libraries. The money made available for purchase of materials is too little to have great impact. It is unfortunate that book budgets of some institutions do not equal the amount provided in federal funds through LSCA.

Volunteer help has been a factor in the organizing the collection of the State Penitentiary -- a project in process. Legal materials are being made available through the State Library staff and the Willamette University Law School. A major objective of the Institutional Library Services program has been to encourage the various institutions to finance and staff their respective library programs properly. The accomplishment of this objective is slow to come but visible progress was made this past year.

Library Services for the Blind & Physically Handicapped

This is an on-going program of service for the blind and physically handicapped of Oregon. The library for these services was moved to new quarters midway through the fiscal year and service was halted for a short time to accomplish the move. Circulation statistics show a slight decline for the year. The greatest increase is in cassette materials due to emphasis placed upon this medium by Library of Congress.

The greatest problem continues to be the identification of physically handicapped persons who are eligible for service. Not as much progress in identification of these potential users was made as had been anticipated.

Future activities will include more thorough planning and evaluation of services including closer contact with public libraries for extending the service to those who will benefit most from it.

The Oregon State Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is one of the fifty-one regional libraries cooperating with the Library of Congress in serving the blind and handicapped. (No LSCA funds were used for this purpose in Fiscal Year 1976 as the entire budget of $128,703 came from State funds.)

TITLE I - LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

No Title I grants were awarded to public libraries from fiscal year 1976 LSCA funds.

TITLE II - CONSTRUCTION

No LSCA Title II funds were appropriated for fiscal year 1976.

TITLE III - INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION

Columbia Regional Association of Governments
(Regional Library Cooperation Study)

FF $15,000
LF 10,877

The project started very slowly due to internal problems relating to organization of a steering committee and then selection of a coordinator. Once the Coordinator was selected a political problem threatened to abolish the fiscal agent, Columbia Region Association of Governments (CRAG). The election on November 2, 1976, was favorable to CRAG so the previous problems were no longer obstacles.

The project is on schedule to be completed prior to September 30, 1977. To date no borrowing agreements have been completed for negotiation with local governments units. A sample agreement has been written to be tested with the advisory committee. A survey of one county is being conducted to test how much use of the larger libraries resource might be made by persons in resource poor areas.

It appears that much reciprocal service activity is being carried out currently but is not offically recognized. It is anticipated that this prior activity, once recognized, will enhance the acceptance of the reciprocal borrowing agreements.

County library service in one of the counties was closed down by a vote of the county residents. For this reason the project is not dealing directly with the local public libraries there. There is some hope that the library will be in operation prior to the completion of the project and that negotiations will be conducted with the county library when it is back in operation.

Oregon is now beginning to establish a resource sharing network among the libraries of the state and plans to work toward the development and establishment of regional library systems. The results of this project will be very important to the future sharing of resources and implementation of regional systems.

Washington County
(County Service Demonstration)

FF $11,736
LF 6,736

The Washington County Cooperative Library Services moved from demonstration to operational state when the people of Washington County voted tax support for the countywide library service.

Title III - Interlibrary Cooperation (cont.)

Washington County (cont.)

The funds for this project were to continue services begun during the demonstration phase until local tax funds become available in January 1977, so that activities may not be disrupted.

No new services were scheduled to begin under this project. The coordinator has, however, expanded existing services measurably during this transitional period. Services to jails and nursing homes have been developed and are growing markedly. One community within the county is beginning the process of establishing a library while another is increasing its services and staff time. These can be attributed directly to the interest and activity generated through demonstration project and transitional funding.

Due to the energy and commitment of the librarians and people in Washington County, these grants show the potential of demonstration projects for accomplishment of larger units of service, as anticipated in the Long Range Program. It is unfortunate that this local effort is very probably the essential ingredient. Without the hard work exerted in Washington County, similar demonstrations are not likely to succeed. The question not yet answered is whether these funds might not be better spent in areas where services exist but could be greatly improved with some additional funding.

Oregon State System of Higher Education, Division of Continuing Education (Interlibrary Cooperation Workshops) — FF $10,000 SF *

The workshop held at Wemme on October 27-29, 1976, brought together representatives of public, academic, school, and special libraries with representatives of the State Library. Assisted by two excellent facilitators employed as part of the project, the persons attending the meeting made major strides toward defining the most desirable patterns of interlibrary cooperation among those possible. The tasks and approximate costs necessary to realize these cooperative efforts were roughly defined. A list of action priorities was drawn and task forces were appointed to solve problems where time or the necessary data was lacking at the conference.

A spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm prevailed throughout the conference, partly through the skilled efforts of the facilitators, yet major steps remain to be taken and some problems have developed. Many of the

Title III - Interlibrary Cooperation (cont.)

Oregon State System of Higher Education (cont.)

tasks defined require funding and it appears that some of the planned funding will not be available. The smaller public libraries were not well represented and their needs and priorities must be considered. One or more follow-up meetings must be held to complete this project.

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WILCO membership)	FF $7,444 SF *

This paid for and additional state membership assessment by the Western Interstate Library Coordinating Organization.

Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange, Inc. (Membership)	FF $ 762 SF *

This purchased a state library membership in CLENE, an organization that gathers, evaluates, and provides information about programs and materials for continuing education for library personnel.

NOTE ON EVALUATION

Receipt of LSCA funds in the final quarter of fiscal year 1976 resulted in projects not being operational until the transitional quarter of fiscal year 1976. Evaluation of these projects will, therefore, not occur until completion in calendar year 1977.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT

ANNUAL DISCRIPTIVE REPORT
(SUPPLEMENT)

For the Transitional Quarter, July 1 - September 30, 1976

MARCIA LOWELL
State Librarian

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OREGON STATE LIBRARY
Salem, Oregon
1976

EXPENDITURE OF LSCA FUNDS

Title I - Library Services

See ANNUAL DESCRIPTIVE REPORT For the Period ending June 30, 1976 for description of activities and responsibilities.

Library Development

See ANNUAL DESCRIPTIVE REPORT For the Period ending June 30, 1976 for description of activities and responsibilities.

Oregon State Library Programs	Amount	% of Total
Library Services & Development	$151,368	100%
Title I - Total	$151,368	100%

Title II - Public Library Construction

No Title II funds were appropriated.

Title III - Interlibrary Cooperation

Projects	Amount
Washington County Department of Finance and Administration (County service demonstration continuation)	$ 8,162
Chemeketa Community College (Three-county regional service demonstration)	$ 3,078
Total	$ 11,240

Total LSCA Funds, Titles I, II, III $162,608

OREGON STATE LIBRARY

TITLE III - INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION

Washington County — FF $8,162; LF 8,162

This grant allowed the continuation of many of the demonstration project services until the tax funds provided by the voters at the May, 1976, primary election actually became available about January 1, 1977.

Chemeketa Community College — FF $3,078; LF 3,200

This project permitted maintaining minimal cooperative services, specifically a courier van service, to keep the organization active until another attempt could be made to obtain voter approval for establishing the cooperative library service and providing it with tax support. At the November, 1976, general election, the voters did vote to establish the service and provide it with tax revenue, so this project will continue minimal service until July 1, 1977, when other revenue sources will become available.